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**From:** Kadeli, Lek [Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 2/1/2021 9:20:46 PM  
**To:** Bloom, David [Bloom.David@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: This Week @ EPA - February 1, 2021

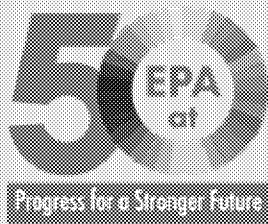
David,

I was going to suggest that Nancy mention that OCFO management asked this item be included at a later date and refer any questions to me or to you if preferred.

Regards,

Lek

Lek G Kadeli  
Senior Advisor to the Chief Financial Officer  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Direct Line: 202-564-6696  
[Kadeli.Lek@EPA.Gov](mailto:Kadeli.Lek@EPA.Gov)



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**From:** Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2021 4:03 PM  
**To:** Kadeli, Lek <Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: This Week @ EPA - February 1, 2021

Fyi .. welcome advice on how to handle thanks ng

Nancy Grantham  
Principal Deputy Associate Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Public Affairs  
202-564-6879 (desk)  
202-253-7056 (cell)  
[grantham.nancy@epa.gov](mailto:grantham.nancy@epa.gov)

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**From:** Coviello, Nancy <Coviello.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 3:56 PM

**To:** Souvannason, Samuel <[Souvannason.Samuel@epa.gov](mailto:Souvannason.Samuel@epa.gov)>; AO OPA Internal Communications <[AO\\_OPA\\_Internal\\_Communications@epa.gov](mailto:AO_OPA_Internal_Communications@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Martiyan, Stefan <[MARTIYAN.STEFAN@EPA.GOV](mailto:MARTIYAN.STEFAN@EPA.GOV)>; Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: This Week @ EPA - February 1, 2021

Hi Sam,

We removed the ELMS Update at the direction of Nancy Grantham. I've added her to this message.

Thanks,

Nancy C.

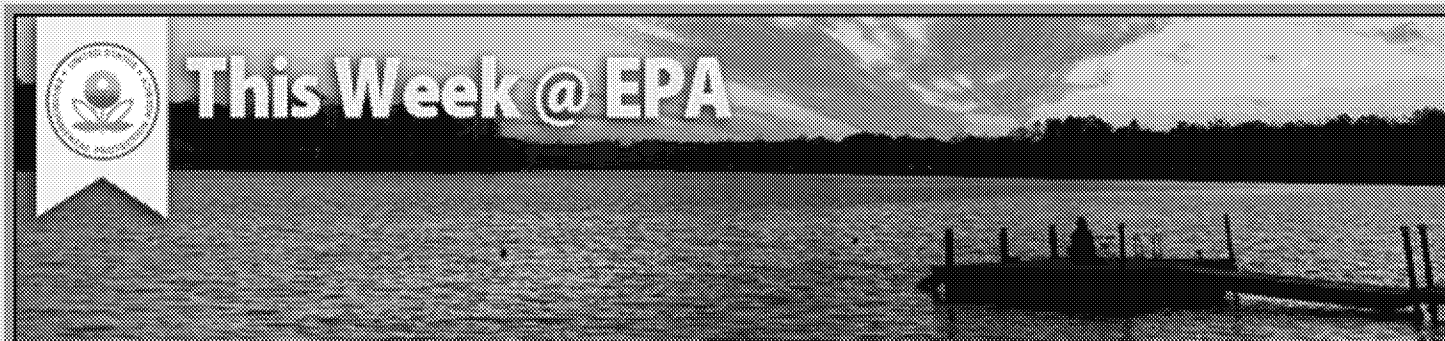
**From:** Souvannason, Samuel <[Souvannason.Samuel@epa.gov](mailto:Souvannason.Samuel@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2021 3:46 PM  
**To:** AO OPA Internal Communications <[AO\\_OPA\\_Internal\\_Communications@epa.gov](mailto:AO_OPA_Internal_Communications@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Martiyan, Stefan <[MARTIYAN.STEFAN@EPA.GOV](mailto:MARTIYAN.STEFAN@EPA.GOV)>  
**Subject:** RE: This Week @ EPA - February 1, 2021

Good Afternoon Internal Comms Team,

I noticed that This Week @ EPA did not feature the ELMS Update submitted by OCI last week. Was this an intentional omission? If so will this be standard moving forward?

Regards,  
Samuel Souvannason  
Communications Director  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Continuous Improvement  
(202) 853-1219

**From:** This Week @ EPA <[epanews@epa.gov](mailto:epanews@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 3:00 PM  
**To:** This Week @ EPA <[epanews@epa.gov](mailto:epanews@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** This Week @ EPA - February 1, 2021



February 1, 2021

Image taken by Mark Corrales, Office of Policy, at Lake Bowen, North Carolina.

[Senior Leadership Focus](#) | [Hot Topics](#) | [ELMS Update](#) | [Key Dates](#) | [Video Spotlight](#) | [Health & Wellness](#) | [IT Corner](#)

In February we celebrate African American History Month also known as Black History Month. EPA will host a commemorative event later in the month, stay tuned for the details. We'll also have employee profiles connected to the month which you can view on One EPA Workplace and next week in this newsletter. Finally, other federal agencies are

sponsoring public events in honor of the month and you can find a collection of these events at the [African American History Month website](#).

## Senior Leadership Focus

### In case you missed it

#### Mass Mailers:

- Dan Utech, Chief of Staff, [provides information](#) on the January 27 Executive Orders and the latest political appointees to join EPA.

#### News Releases:

- Dow Chemical Company and two subsidiaries [will reduce harmful air pollution](#) at four chemical plants.
- EPA [welcomes additional members](#) of the Biden-Harris leadership team.
- EPA [announces over \\$72 Million](#) for clean water projects in Texas.



## Hot Topics

### 2021 MSPB Survey

This week the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), an independent federal agency, will invite randomly selected federal employees to participate in the survey. This survey will help assess the soundness of federal merit systems to ensure employees are managed fairly, effectively, and efficiently. Selected employees will receive an invitation to take the survey. Please make time to complete the survey (expected completion time is 30 minutes or less). Your participation is voluntary, and your responses are confidential. MSPB will not report any data used to identify individual participants or work units. MSPB has conducted this survey for nearly 30 years.

For more information about the survey, please visit the [MSPB web site](#). Contact [Mary Robertson](#) in the Office of Human Resources if you have questions.

Thank you in advance for your support of the 2021 Merit Principles Survey!



**EPA's National Observance in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**



EPA honored the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the January 27 panel discussion based on the title of his final book **"Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community"** published in 1967. Moderated by LaShan Haynes, president of Blacks In Government group, EPA William D. Barber, Jr. Chapter, the panel consisted of Lilian Sotolongo Dorka, Director of External Civil Rights Compliance Office – Office of the General Counsel, Mike Harris, Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division – Region 5, Kimberly Patrick, Director, Office of Acquisition Solutions – Office of Mission Support, and Nigel Simon, Director of Program Management – Office of Land and Emergency Management.

New EPA Chief of Staff, Dan Utech, acknowledged the continued fight for civil rights in his opening remarks commemorating Dr. King's mission. Speaking about the Biden-Harris administration's day-one [executive order to advance racial equity and support for underserved communities](#), he noted "the mission of EPA to protect human health and environment is a mission that is and must be centered on civil rights and racial equity."

The panel went on to cover multifaceted efforts to keep Dr. King's dream alive, discussing avoidable poverty, representation, and sustainable solutions to diversity and inclusion concerns. Participants reflected on their decades of EPA experience and growth, comparing similarities plus differences between civil rights movements past and present.

If you missed the event, [a recording of it](#) is now available.



**Deadline to Host Science Policy or Environmental Health Fellows**

EPA provides mentored training to generate the policy-savvy scientists and engineers who can conduct research, teach,

communicate, and apply their expertise to protect public health and the environment EPA through a partnership with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) helps you in hosting a fellow this spring. Fellowships last one year, with a possible extension to two years.

Fellows are high caliber, early to mid-career professionals who are seeking fellowship opportunities to share their knowledge while learning about the role of science and policy in government. Recent fellows hosted by EPA have contributed substantial expertise to a wide range of EPA projects and products, including: ecosystem services education, research translation regarding indoor exposures and the built environment, solutions for sustainable financing for in-home asthma interventions, clean cooking workshops in Uganda, identifying research gaps in nutrient pollution, and more.

Please contact Gelena McBride, [mcbride.gelena@epa.gov](mailto:mcbride.gelena@epa.gov), by **February 22** to learn how to submit EPA-mentored fellowship opportunity descriptions.

## **Reminder: 2021 Q1 Wellness Webinars and Resources**

More Thriving Tuesdays, Wellness Wednesdays, and Trending Thursdays are coming soon! Registration is not required

for the LIVE webinars. Refer to the [Benefits Corner SharePoint site](#) for specific event times and additional key information. Here is what's on tap for the first quarter, Q1:

**February**

- 10 – The 'Why' Power – Emotional Goal Setting
- 17 – Longevity Lifestyle Preparation
- 25 – Phased Retirement

**March**

- 10 – Federal Health Benefits Service Day
- 16 – Medicare and How It Coordinates with the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program
- 18 – Understanding the Impact of Post-Election Tax Changes (Tax Planning 101)
- 25 – Tax Planning (formerly Taxes & The IRS)

The Office of Human Resources Work/Life/Wellness Program sponsors these webinars. The Webinars will be advertised quarterly. Please bookmark the [Benefits Corner SharePoint site](#) to stay informed of future events! For Closed Captioning: Contact Ramona J. Conway (202-564-7571).

Key Dates	Video Spotlight
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Click on each event below to get more details.

### EPA's 2021 Martin Luther King Commemoration

EPA honored the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the January 27 panel discussion based on the title of his final book **“Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community”** published in 1967.



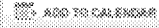
Moderated by LaShan Haynes, president of Blacks In Government group, EPA William D. Barber, Jr. Chapter, the panel consisted of Lilian Sotolongo Dorka, Director of External Civil Rights Compliance Office – Office of the General Counsel, Mike Harris, Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division – Region 5, Kimberly Patrick, Director, Office of Acquisition Solutions – Office of Mission Support, and Nigel Simon, Director of Program Management – Office of Land and Emergency Management.

Total time: 52:24

Click on the "Add to Calendar" button to add an event to your Outlook calendar.  
If you see a log-in screen, please click on your EPA email, or if prompted, enter your email and network password.

**This week:**

**Feb. 4:** [Monthly ELMS Overview webinar](#)



**Coming soon:**

**March 4:** [Monthly ELMS Overview webinar](#)



Health and Wellness	IT Corner
Discover online health and wellness resources and webinars	Office 365 (O365) Training and Support



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, monitoring

Are you looking to learn more about

your health (e.g., regular screenings and [physicals](#)), [eating a balanced diet](#), and [exercising regularly](#) are essential to maintaining health and wellness. For EPA employees, tips for healthy living are just a click away.

Visit EPA's intranet to discover webinars, online assessments, and a variety of other resources on health and wellness topics such as:

- [Depression.](#)
- [Diabetes.](#)
- [Heart disease.](#)
- [Nutrition.](#)
- [Preventative care.](#)
- [Smoking cessation.](#)
- [Stress management.](#)
- [Weight management.](#)

For more information, visit the [Health and Wellness page](#) on the Office of Mission Support's Safety and Sustainability Division's intranet page.

O365 tools, such as SharePoint or

Teams? Check out the February [O365 training schedule](#) for upcoming training on those tools and more. To register, either click the link on the calendar event or [visit FedTalent](#) directly. All courses are available to all employees at no cost!

Not sure where to start? Check out the new **Team-SharePoint Introduction** class. Participants will be introduced to the interface and features of SharePoint through the MS Teams interface. A perfect webinar for a new employee. **Upcoming class: Feb 25 at 11:00 a.m. ET**

#### **One-on-One Assistance for Teams Live Events**

Are you hosting a Teams Live Event? Whether you're new to live events or just need some extra help, Microsoft offers [one-on-one assistance \(exit\)](#) at no cost to you.

For assistance, submit a [Request Form \(exit\)](#) to Microsoft. Be sure to include the **EPA tenant ID** (@usa.onmicrosoft.com OR @epa.gov) and the **Office 365 administration IT contact** ([hawkins.herman@epa.gov](mailto:hawkins.herman@epa.gov)).

**Questions?** About the O365 Training Program, contact [O365TrainingProgram@epa.gov](mailto:O365TrainingProgram@epa.gov). One-on-one assistance with O365 tools, call the How-to Help Center at 866-411-4372, Option 6. Technical assistance with O365 tools, contact the Enterprise IT Service Desk (EISD) at 1-866-411-4372, option 3.

We would love to hear our feedback about this newsletter. Please contact us at [internalcomms@epa.gov](mailto:internalcomms@epa.gov) | <http://intranet.epa.gov/internalcomms>. Looking for previous editions of the newsletter? Go to the [Newsletter Archive](#).